

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 MMS-03 A-01 CPR-02 L-03

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O R 051520Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3849

USUN IMMEDIATE 464

INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 7359

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFRO, AR, US

SUBJECT: ARTICLE CONERNING MINISTER KREBS

USUN FOR ASST SEC KUBISCH

1. SUMMARY: KREBS ATTACKED IN LA OPINION ARTICLE THIS MORNING WHICH RAISES ISSUE OF HIS ATTENDANCE AT INAUGURATION CEREMONIES. END SUMMARY.

2. LA OPINION TODAY CARRIES ARTICLE BY MARTIN ALLICA (EX-CLARIN STAFFER) WHICH DEALS WITH US-ARGENTINE RELATIONS. THRUST IS THAT DEPARTMENT OF STATE, UNDER PRAGMATIC NEW SECRETARY, HAS EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF PERON'S OVERWHELMING VICTORY AT POLLS AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW OPEN AND FLEXIBLE POLICY TOWARD ARGENTINA.

3. ARTICLE THEN GOES ON TO EXPRESS PUZZLEMENT OVER FACT THAT DESPITE NEW PRAGMATISM, DEPARTMENT HAS MAINTAINED DCM MAX V. KREBS AT HIS POST IN BUENOS AIRES EVEN THOUGH NATIONAL CONGRESS DECLARED HIM PERSONA NON GRATA.

4. ARTICLE EMPHASIZES THAT IN VIEW OF AMBASSADOR LODGE'S SCHEDULED DEPARTURE (SIC) JUST PRIOR TO INAUGURATION, POSSIBILITY OF KREBS ATTENDANCE AT INAUGURATION CEREMONIES IS RAISED. THERE ARE, ARTICLE SAYS, FIVE POSSIBILITIES:

A) DEPARTMENT CAN FOLLOW "SPRUILLE BRADEN" TYPE COURSE (I.E. AND HAVE KREBS ATTEND CEREMONIES).

B) AMBASSADOR LODGE CAN POSTPONE DEPARTURE IN ORDER ATTEND

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INAUGURATION.

C) KREBS COULD DELEGATE LOWER-RANKING EMBASSY OFFICIAL TO ATTEND. THIS, ARTICLE SUGGESTS, WOULD HARDLY BE VIEWED AS FRIENDLY ACT BY GOA.

D) DEPARTMENT CAN FACE UP TO IT AND LET KREBS' REPLACEMENT GO AS A GREEK GIFT TO THE CEREMONIES (COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS NO IDEA TO WHAT THIS MAY REFER).

E) AT LAST MOMENT DEPARTMENT MAY COME UP WITH UNEXPECTED KING SOLOMON LIKE SOLUTION.

5. LA OPINION IS ONLY MEDIA ELEMENT IN WHICH THIS LINE OF SPECULATION CARRIED SO FAR.

LODGE

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